CARL JOHNSON (904) 641 2993 (PHONE AND FAX) carl.johns@worldnot.au,net

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11602 Hidden Hills Drive South Jacksonville, Florida 32225

January 20, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The intention of this letter is so that I may go on record as being in favor of the recent settlement that ended the antitrust dispute between Microsoft and the Department of Justice. I do feel that there should not have been a lawsuit in the first place, but that does not really matter now. What is important is the litigation at the federal level is over, and I support anything that will keep it that way.

I feel that Microsoft has been responsible for generating more jobs and more innovative technology than any other company has in the past 20 or 30 years. It appeared to me that the litigation served to penalize Microsoft for their past efforts and overall creativity. In a business where creative solutions and technological progress move very quickly the fact that Microsoft must now share their independently developed technical data, i.e. protocols implemented in the Windows operating system, with their competitors seems very unfair. In essence, Microsoft has to turn over intellectual property that was developed at private expense to their competitors.

The settlement that was reached is reasonable, mostly because it brings an end to the antitrust litigation between Microsoft and the Justice Department.

Sincerely,

Carl Johnson